Introduced by Assembly Member Logue

February 21, 2013

An act to amend Section 2170 of, and to add Section 2170.5 to, the Elections Code, relating to elections.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 843, as introduced, Logue. Voter registration: conditional voter registration.

Existing law establishes conditional voter registration, using an affidavit of registration, whereby a person is permitted to register to vote after the 15th day prior to an election or on election day, and cast a provisional ballot to be counted if the conditional voter registration is deemed effective. Existing law establishes the procedures and requirements for determining whether a conditional voter registration is deemed effective and requires the county elections official to offer conditional voter registration and provisional voting at its permanent offices and authorizes the official to offer this registration and voting at satellite offices on election day.

This bill would additionally require that a registrant provide proof of residency in order for a conditional voter registration to be deemed effective. If a conditional voter registration is not deemed effective, the bill would require the elections official to process the affidavit of registration pursuant to existing law, and provided that all other eligibility requirements are met, the bill would deem the registration effective in forthcoming elections. By imposing additional duties on local officials, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

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The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 2170 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

2170. (a) "Conditional voter registration" means a properly executed affidavit of registration, which is delivered by the registrant to a county elections official during the 14 days immediately preceding an election or on election day and which may be deemed effective pursuant to this article after the elections official processes the affidavit, determines the registrant's eligibility to register, and validates the registrant's information, as specified in subdivision (c).

- (b) In addition to other methods of voter registration provided by this code, an elector who is otherwise qualified to register to vote under this code and Section 2 of Article II of the California Constitution may complete a conditional voter registration and cast a provisional ballot during the 14 days immediately preceding an election or on election day pursuant to this article.
- (c) (1) A conditional voter registration shall be deemed effective if the county elections official is able to determine before or during the canvass period for the election that the registrant is eligible to register to vote and that the information provided by the registrant on the registration affidavit matches information contained in a database maintained by the California Department of Motor Vehicles or the federal Social Security Administration.
- (2) If the information provided by the registrant on the registration affidavit cannot be verified pursuant to paragraph (1) but the registrant is otherwise eligible to vote, the registrant shall be issued a unique identification number pursuant to Section 2150 and the conditional voter registration shall be deemed effective.

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(3) In order for a conditional voter registration to be deemed effective, the registrant shall additionally provide proof of residence pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 2170.5.

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- (d) The county elections official shall offer conditional voter registration and provisional voting pursuant to this article, in accordance with the following procedures:
- (1) The elections official shall provide conditional voter registration and provisional voting pursuant to this article at all permanent offices of the county elections official in the county.
- (2) The elections official shall advise registrants that a conditional voter registration will be effective only if the registrant is determined to be eligible to register to vote for the election and the information provided by the registrant on the registration affidavit is verified pursuant to subdivision (c).
- (3) The elections official shall conduct the receipt and handling of each conditional voter registration and offer and receive a corresponding provisional ballot in a manner that protects the secrecy of the ballot and allows the elections official to process the registration, to determine the registrant's eligibility to register, and to validate the registrant's information before counting or rejecting the corresponding provisional ballot.
- (4) After receiving a conditional voter registration, the elections official shall process the registration, determine the registrant's eligibility to register, and attempt to validate the information.
- (5) If a conditional registration is deemed effective, the elections official shall include the corresponding provisional ballot in the official canvass.
- (e) The county elections official may offer conditional voter registration and provisional voting pursuant to this article on election day at satellite offices of the county elections office, in accordance with the procedures specified in paragraphs (2) to (5), inclusive, of subdivision (d).
 - SEC. 2. Section 2170.5 is added to the Elections Code, to read:
- 2170.5. (a) A person who completes a conditional voter registration pursuant to this article shall provide proof of residence in order to register to vote during the 14 days immediately preceding an election or on election day. Proof of residence shall include any of the following:
- (1) A valid California driver's license, driver's instruction 40 permit, or identification card.

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(2) A valid student identification card with an identifying photograph.

- (3) A tribal identification card with an identifying photograph and signature.
- (4) A signed oath provided by a voter registered in the same precinct as the registrant who can confirm the registrant's address.
- (5) A signed oath provided by an employee of the residential facility where the registrant resides who can confirm the registrant's address.
- (6) Photo identification, which may include a driver's license, state identification card, passport, military identification card, tribal identification card, or student identification card, and a current bill identifying the name and address of the registrant, which may include a utility bill due within 30 days of election day, a rent statement dated within 30 days of election day, or a current fee statement.
- (b) If a conditional voter registration is not deemed effective pursuant to this article, the elections official shall process the affidavit of registration pursuant to Sections 2102 and 2107 and, provided that the registrant meets all other eligibility requirements to register to vote, the registration shall be deemed effective in forthcoming elections.
- SEC. 3. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.